



Birders' Exchange

getting tools to people who need them

Birders' Exchange is a co-operative program of the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences and the American Birding Association

Dear Colleague:

The American Birding Association and the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences are coordinating the efforts to collect used research equipment and books for donation to environmental groups in Latin America, and the Caribbean. This project, called the BIRDERS' EXCHANGE, has two primary goals: 1) to provide material support to organizations involved in research, conservation, or public education work related to birds and their habitats, and 2) to increase the flow of information about bird conservation efforts between grassroots organizations throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The BIRDERS' EXCHANGE is accepting requests for material assistance. As a result of donations from North American bird clubs, the following materials are available:

- * binoculars (used, but in good condition)
- * spotting scopes with tripods (numbers very limited)
- * field guides and ornithological reference books

Requests for other types of research and education equipment, such as laptop computers, cameras, slide projectors, back packs, etc., are also accepted. If we do not currently have the equipment or books you request, we will try to find a donor.

Guidelines for applying to the BIRDERS' EXCHANGE are enclosed. Preference will be given to organizations engaged in research or conservation work on migrant or resident birds, preservation of habitats important to birds, or education efforts designed to increase public appreciation of birds and bird conservation. Because of the logistical problems of equipment delivery, your organization's ability to help arrange for delivery of materials will be considered in our evaluation of your proposal.

Because one of the goals of the BIRDERS' EXCHANGE is to increase the available information about existing bird conservation efforts, groups requesting assistance from the Exchange are encouraged to provide photographs or printed materials describing their work. These materials will prove valuable in our efforts to inform the North American public about the significant research and conservation work being undertaken by Latin American groups, and will assist us in soliciting further donations to the Birders' Exchange.

We hope to hear from you.

Betty Petersen
Program Director
Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences

Lina DiGregorio
Program Director
American Birding Association

Betty Petersen, Program Director
Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences
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Web page:
[www.americanbirding.org/
consbex.htm](http://www.americanbirding.org/consbex.htm)

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Fax: 719 578 1480
Email: edcon@aba.org

BIRDERS' EXCHANGE

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

1. Fill out BIRDERS' EXCHANGE application form.
2. Write a 1 - 3 page proposal (in English or Spanish) that addresses the following points:
 - a. Provide a brief history of your organization or project. When and why was it formed? How many paid and/or volunteer employees are on your staff? Are you a registered, and/or tax exempt organization?
 - b. Describe your organization's current activities, in terms of research, education, or conservation. How does your organization work to preserve migrant and resident birds and/or their habitats? If you are an academic researcher or student, describe your project, why it is important to bird conservation, and what new information it will provide. (If you wish, include résumés of appropriate researchers or staff.)
 - c. What are the specific needs of your organization or project in terms of research equipment, field guides, reference books, or journals? Explain specifically why the materials are needed, how they will be used, and how many people will be using them. If more than one item is requested, rank the items in terms of importance to your project.
3. Provide names, addresses, and phone numbers of one or more references who are familiar with your organization or research project. Students should include a letter of recommendation from their academic advisor.
4. Organizations that receive equipment or funds through the Manomet/ABA BIRDERS' EXCHANGE are required to provide a follow-up report on their activities 6 months after receiving the materials. This report should detail how the equipment has been used, whether it performed satisfactorily, and how many people used it.
5. Photographs (slide or B&W print) depicting your organization's activities or staff, or printed materials describing your organization's work, will greatly help Manomet and ABA to publicize the work of your organization and to solicit future donations from North American bird watchers. If you are able to provide us with these materials, please include them with your proposal. We cannot guarantee the return of photographs.

IMPORTANT Please advise us on the best way to deliver valuable materials (such as binoculars) to your organization. Be as detailed as possible. Your ability to help arrange for delivery of materials will effect our evaluation of your proposal. Do you have contacts with the U.S. embassy in your country, or with local offices of international conservation organizations or multinational corporations that could help to facilitate delivery? Let us know if representatives of your organization will be traveling to the U.S. or if you know of U.S. researchers who may be traveling to your area who can act as couriers.

BIRDERS' EXCHANGE

APPLICATION FORM

Organization Name: _____

Project Names: _____

Principal Investigator _____

Official Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZipCode: _____ Country _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Briefly describe the type and amount of equipment you are requesting (In order of priority):

What is the best method of sending valuable materials to your organization ?

Proposals or inquiries should be sent to:

Birders' Exchange
American Birding Association
PO Box 6599
Colorado Spring, CO 80934
USA

fax: 719-578-1480